



Malakan 1992
FIRST COPY

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नया: यासा युवः अरु अभिका या यो

Newsletter of Nepa Pasa Pucha of America



Vol. 1 No. 1

Quarterly

October, 1992

Editor's Note

Welcome to the first issue of *Dabu*, the newsletter of Nepa Pasa Pucha of America. In this issue we provide you with news and articles on subjects ranging from Alphabets of Nepal to Newar Jewellery Exhibition. Presidents message, Cultural awareness, Why pasa pucha?, Mha puja and the new year, and Newa culture are some of the topics included. We believe that feedback from you, the reader, is essential for maintaining and/or improving the quality of the newsletter. We are committed to bringing out quality newsletters in a timely basis. We welcome your active participation and support. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please let us know.

NEW YEAR CELEBRATION, NEPAL SAMBAT 1113

A grand N. S. 1113 new year celebration is planned for the 7th of November in the Washington DC area. This year's celebration is expected to break last year's record crowd of some 130 people. Nepa Pasa Pucha of America cordially invites you to join us in this celebration. Fun filled events are programmed for the whole day and you can be assured of the Newa hospitality and the Newa feasting. The celebration starts at 12:00 noon at the city hall of the city of New Carrollton, 6016 Princess Garden Parkway, New Carrollton, Maryland. The city hall telephone number is (310) 459-6100. The entrance fee is \$10.00 per head, free for children under 12 years.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct. 4	Kuchhi Bhoje
Oct. 5	Syako Tyako
Oct. 6	Vijaya Dasmi
Oct. 9	Dasain Celebration; contact Ram Malakar (301) 420-9019
Oct. 11	Kati Punhi
Oct. 23	Ko Puja and Master Jagat Sunder Budin
Oct. 24	Khicha Puja
Oct. 25	Laxmi Puja
Oct. 26	Mha Puja and New Year N.S. 1113
Oct. 27	Kija Puja
Nov. 10	Sakimila Punhi
Nov. 22	Bala Chahre
Dec. 9	Yamari, Thinla Punhi

Exhibition of Traditional Newa Jewellery

Jewellery occupies an important place in Newa ceremonies. Newa men and women, young and old, all wore exotic ornaments to suit specific occasions. Some of these ornaments are still widely used, some others have disappeared and yet some others, such as Makasi, have reappeared in a big way. The following catalogues a list of exhibits displayed at the Tisa Bojya, the exhibition of traditional Newar Jewellery held June 22-23, 1992 at the Goethe Institute in Kathmandu. The list is by no means exhaustive, although it covers most of the more popular Newa jewellery items.

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CATALOGUE OF EXHIBITS

(Courtesy: Newar Cultural Society, Kathmandu)

HAIR ORNAMENTS

1. **Loon-ya swan:** A cluster of flowers and birds worn in the hair by the bride and mother-in-law during bride-welcoming ceremony (Lasakus).
2. **Sirbandi:** It has a strip that goes around the forehead and another over the top of the head from the centre. (Worn by brides and girls going to a feast.)
3. **Loon swan:** A flat flower worn in the bun. (For brides and women going to a feast.)
4. **Nyapu sikha:** Five chains attached to a brooch studded with emeralds. (For brides.)
5. **Satifal:** Bell-like ornaments attached to a string and tied to the plaits. (For brides.)
6. **Loon sinha:** A small piece stuck to the middle of the forehead. (For brides.)

EAR ORNAMENTS

7. **Tuki:** Small round ornaments worn along the edge of the ear. (Everyday wear for women.)
8. **Marcha:** Earrings worn by children during the rice-feeding ceremony (Macha janko).
9. **Nhasicha:** Pin worn in the upper part of the ear.
10. **Punaycha:** Earrings worn during the old-age ceremony (Burha janko).
11. **Nyacha:** A pin worn in the middle part of the ear. (Everyday use.)
12. **Makasi:** An egg-shaped hollow ornament worn in the ear for everyday use.

MAKE-UP KIT (Given to the bride by her parents as part of her wedding presents.)

13. **Jwala nhaye-kan:** A mirror in the shape of a huge flame.
14. **Sinha mu:** A tall pagoda-shaped container for coloured powder.
15. **Kon khola:** A dish for keeping face powder, decorated with five raised snake-heads.
16. **Chikan khola:** Oil container like the Kon khola.
17. **Sinha thala:** A box for keeping coloured powder.
18. **Kakicha:** A comb.
19. **Swan fo:** A flat flower for keeping in the hair.

NECKLACES

20. **Tik-ma:** A strip of velvet on which are attached golden designs and emeralds. (Worn by girls going to a feast.)
21. **Chandra hal:** A necklace made of several chains of thin flat rings joined together. (For women going to a feast.)

22. **Tusipu sikha:** A chain made of cucumber seed shaped pieces joined together. (For women going to a feast.)

23. **Jantar:** An amulet worn around the neck.

24. **Swofo jantar-ma:** Three amulets strung together. (For young boys going to a feast.)

25. **Suta:** A bracelet-like ornament with lion-face ends worn around the neck. For girls taking part in the coming-of-age ceremony (Ihi and Baray) and boys undergoing initiation into monkhood (Bare chhuye-gu).

26. **Bhimpu-ma:** A garland made of coral strung together. (Worn by women going to a feast.)

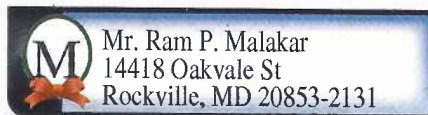
27. **Tayo:** A long narrow hollow piece with tapering ends and decorated with five raised snakeheads. (Worn by brides and girls during their coming-of-age ceremony and during festivals.)

28. **Sikha:** A thick chain made of star-shaped pieces joined together. (For women going to feasts.)

FOOT ORNAMENTS

29. **Payo:** A large oval bracelet-like ornament worn around the ankle. (Worn by brides and girls during their coming-of-age ceremony.)

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न. सं. ११११९ नृदेव्या सितुना

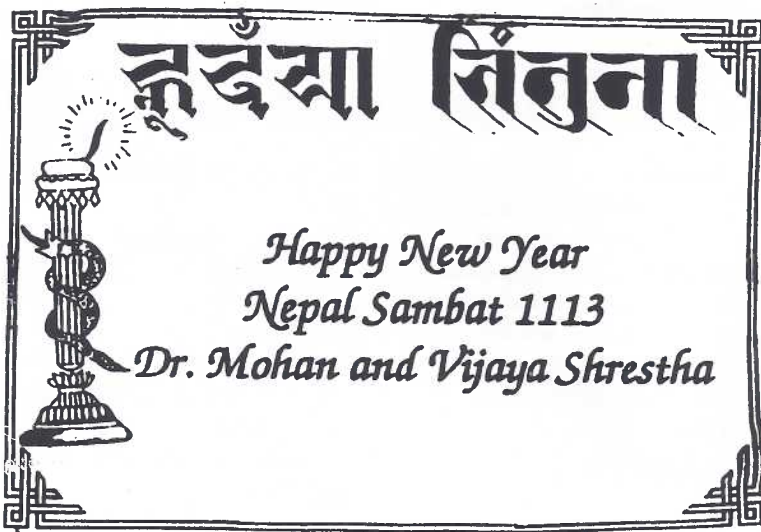
*Happy New Year
Nepal Sambat 1113
Devendra, Ajal, Devesh,
and Anisha Amatya*

THE ALPHABETS OF NEPAL

Dr. Manoranjan N. Dhaubhadel

Nepalese culture, rich as it is, is also blessed with its own sophisticated but very effective alphabets. Since ancient times Nepal has had a number of scripts (sets of alphabets) to express in writing the language of Nepal, the Newa Bhahe (nowadays called Nepal Bhasha and also Newari). A number of ancient and not so ancient books which have utilized the various Nepalese scripts can be found preserved in libraries around the world, especially in the U.K., the U.S.A., Japan, India and Nepal. These books indicate the extensive use of the Nepal alphabets during the past one thousand years. Some of the alphabets were also spotted in monasteries and temples in countries as far as Japan. In the Malla era, Nepal Bhasha was the official language and the people's language. Today it is the language of Newa people, the indigenous people of Kathmandu valley. The Nepal alphabets served well to expose the richness of Nepal Bhasha. For special features of Nepal Bhasha vis-a-vis other languages like English, French, Hindi, and Nepali the reader is referred to Nepal Lipi Guthi, Kathmandu. The Guthi's regular publications

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DABU AD RATES

Dabu is circulated to a wide variety of readers including Nepalese Americans, Nepalese Canadians, Nepalese living in North America, North American friend of Nepal, selected businesses, schools, diplomats, politicians, other ethnic groups and individuals throughout North America and selected individuals and institutions in Nepal.

The advertisement rates/donations are as follows:

One full page:	\$60 for one insert
	\$220 for four inserts in a year
One half page:	\$30 for one insert
	\$110 for four inserts in a year
One quarter page:	\$15 for one insert
	\$55 for four inserts in a year

For further information call or write to:

Dr. M. N. Dhaubhadel
Editor-in-chief, NPPA
1223 Jonathan Drive
Erie, PA 16509-3955
Phone/Fax: (814) 825-1063

New Year . . . continued from page 1

Members can obtain invitation cards for guests from NPPA. If you have questions on arrangements, accommodations etc., please contact Mr. Achyut Shrestha at (301) 731-4340 or Mr. B. L. Shrestha at (301) 776-8771 or Mr. Ram Malakar at (301) 420-9019 or Mr. Tribhuvan Tuladhar at (703) 751-7433 or write to The President, NPPA, 4610 Lacy Ave., Suitland, MD 20746.

If you are curious as to why we are in the 12th century N.S., here is a brief explanation. Nepal Sambat is a dynamic 'era'. The current year is counted from the 'recent' past year when all the people in Nepal were able to pay back their debt. So if you want to live in the 1st year of the 1st century N.S., all you have to do is, historically speaking, to pay back all the debt of all the people in Nepal today.

CULTURAL AWARENESS

Veda Joshi

It is hard to say exactly when and who migrated first to America from Nepal. It is very difficult to trace such a statistic. To the best of my knowledge, many Nepalese have had the opportunity to migrate to America after the down fall of the autocratic government in 1951. All came hoping for a better life and to educate their children. Some were lucky. Others ended in tragedy.

Prior to this, there were some who came to study and chose to stay. They were probably the first to settle here.

Some came as visitors and stayed here as illegal migrants as they found the life here to be better than in Nepal. Later on they were given amnesty by the US Immigration. Some new comers are still here as illegal migrants seeking a better living.

All the immigrants and illegal migrants have brought one common thing with them to America. They brought their Culture with them and enriched the diverse American Culture.

The early immigrants have had difficult time settling in this melting pot. Between their jobs and raising children in the new environment, some did not have time to think about their heritage. Many were homesick and as a result, several Nepal related organizations were born in different parts of America.

The immigrants from Nepal have diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds. In several decades of their presence in this land of opportunity, the cultural awareness of different ethnic groups have become more visible than ever before. The first generation immigrants are the ones who are most aware of their culture and ethnic diversity and if they do not maintain their heritage, it will soon vanish in this melting pot.

As a result of Cultural Awareness, Nepa Pasa Pucha of America was born. All the immigrants in this country are Nepalese and Nepali Americans in general, but they are of different ethnic groups.

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In memory of Chandra Bahadur Rajlawat

On July 31, Chandra Bahadur Rajlawat departed from this world, along with 112 others involved in a Thai airplane crash in Nepal. Chandra was a divisional forest officer in Nepal and a graduate student at the North Carolina State University. He was on a World Bank funded forestry research trip to Nepal when the tragedy struck. He was like anyone of us trying to excel in a new environment and bring happiness to the family. He has left behind his wife Shanti, son Sandeep, and daughter Shiva. Chandra was a supporter and a friend of Nepa Pasa Pucha of America. NPPA expresses heartfelt condolence to the bereaved Rajlawat family and to all the other grief stricken families. A fund has been established to help the surviving Rajlawats, thanks to Chandra's close friends like Devendra Amatya, Narayan Rajbhandari and Ishwar Devkota in Raliegh. If you like to contribute please contact Mr. Narayan Rajbhandari at (919) 828-7349.

The NPPA Executive Committee:

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Dhaubhadel
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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends:

It is my pleasure to take this opportunity to introduce you to our organization NEPA PASA PUCHA OF AMERICA. This is a non-profit social and cultural organization established to preserve, conserve and promote the cultural heritage of the Kathmandu Valley, its Newa People and other cultures of Nepal at large. The Newa culture was born in the land of Nepa, presently known as the Kathmandu Valley, the Capital of modern Nepal, the Himalayan kingdom. It has developed here through many centuries into a rich, intricate, and sophisticated culture that is unrivaled. It embraces all religions of the land intertwining art, culture, and rituals into one tolerant, peaceful and progressive culture.

In the history and cultural background of Nepal, the contribution of Newa culture is very significant. The contents of the culture have captured the hearts and minds of kings, royalties, and philosophers of the past, from China, Tibet and India; and intellectuals, historians, poets and writers of the present world.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I hear from some people that the creation of Nepa Pasa Pucha of America will bring strife between Newars and Bahuns. I, however, believe that the organization will instead encourage close friendship between the various people of Nepal.

Yours,
ANM

Dear ANM,

You are right. There is no basis for such skepticism. It is our view that preservation and promotion of our diverse ethnicity is essential for developing mutual respect between the people of different ethnic backgrounds. Gone are the days of the 'divide and rule' policies of the Shah and the Rana rulers. We should take pride in our ethnic diversity and preserve and promote the diverse ethnicity. All Nepalese should understand the fact that preservation and promotion of Newa culture benefits every Nepali. By the way, there are Bramhans amongst Newars also. Rajopadhyas are highly respected Newar Bramhans.

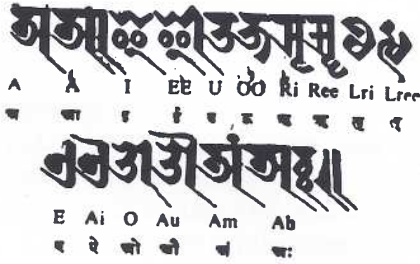
- Editor

Dr. Maheswor, Beena, Sophia, Sonia and Robin Baidya wish their happy, healthy and hearty New Year greetings from Columbus to all our Nepalese friends and their families.

Alphabets . . . continued from page 3

provide excellent coverage on both the alphabets and the language.

Nine Nepalese scripts have been extensively used in the Nepal Bhasha literature. These are Ranjana, currently popular Nepal Bhasha script, Bhujinmol (bhujin=fly, mol=alphabets), Kunmol (kun=smoke), Kwenmol (kwen=bone), Golmol (gol=spherical), Pachumol (Pachu=axe handle), Hinmol (Hin=a kind of strong flavored spice), Litumol (litu=following). Ranjana and currently popular Nepal Bhasha alphabets are more popular these days. Given below are the Ma Aakha (vowels, sixteen in number) and BA Aakha (Consonants, thirty six in number) of the currently popular Nepal Alphabets along with their English and Devanagari counterparts (Courtesy: Nepalese Alphabets by Hemraj Shakyavansha):



It is only natural that any self-respecting Nepali would like to use Nepalese script. Two hundred years of suppression of Nepal Bhasha forced on us a borrowed script which we can not claim to be our own. Now that we have democracy in Nepal, perhaps it is time that we expand the use of our own alphabets of Nepal.

Nhun Dan Ya Bhintuna

Best Wishes to NPPA and all Members on the occasion of the New Year

Please contact us for low-cost Air Fair to Nepal and the rest of the world Adventure Travel & Tours.

(703) 237-1055

From Suresh & Neesha Baral

Every ethnic group should work hand-in-hand to pass on its culture, so that the young generation will not forget their heritage and origin.

Almost all the immigrants from Nepal are celebrating their festivals. Dashain and Tihar (Festivals of Lights) are the main two festivals celebrated in the different parts of America where the Nepalese and Nepali Americans are settled.

In Nepal, Dashain is a ten day festival, tenth day being the biggest day of the festival when a TIKA is received as a blessing from the parents and elders. Tibar is a five day festival. The last day of the festival is known as BHAI TIKA when sisters worship their brothers and the brothers give gifts in return. Some ethnic groups, such as Newars worship one-self on the fourth day of the festival known as MHA PUJA. This is a significant day for the Newar community, as the Nepal Sambat begins on this day. This year, Nepal Sambat - 1113 New Year's day falls on October the 26th.

Best wishes to all the readers on this auspicious occasion of Happy Nepal Sambat - 1113.

Florida - Nepal Society Open in Florida

Florida - Nepal Society has elected its new executive officers as follows:

Mr. Tirtha Bahadur Mali - President

Mr. Babu Ram Adhikari - Vice President

Mr. Rajeeb Lamsal - General Secretary

Mr. Ramesh Lal Shrestha - Information Secretary

Mr. Ajaya Satyal - Members-At-Large

Mr. Subarna Malakar - Members-At-Large

PLEASE JOIN NPPA OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

NPPA membership is open to all Nepalese and Friends of Nepal.

Please support us and send your membership dues.

Membership Fee:

Benefactor:	US \$500.00 and above
Life:	US \$200.00
Honorary:	by invitation
Regular:	
Family	US \$10.00
Individual	US \$8.00
Student:	US \$5.00

For membership forms please contact Saroj Prajapati at (301) 206-9086

President's Message . . . continued from page 5

Many Nepalese organizations are also trying to preserve, conserve and promote the Nepalese social and cultural heritage by celebrating may special occasions. We also must realize that the responsibility of teaching our children about our heritage is ours alone.

We live in a free democratic nation, far away from our homeland, let us not be too timid about showing our cultural knowledge, utilizing our rights and realizing our potential so that we can not be ignored.

Therefore, dear friend, I feel that the cultural treasures of our country should not be left to disintegrate and be lost. We need to do everything possible to preserve and promote them for our future generations.

So, be a partner in this important project by becoming an active member, so that we can continue to develop the unique works of our ancestors who lived their lives so illustriously and eloquently.

We would like to see you participate in the activities of the organization by sharing with us your valuable suggestions, ideas and proposals, so that we can make this organization a great success.

Thank you.

Ram Malakar
President
NPPA

WHY PASA PUCHA?

Dibya Hada

Pasa Pucha of America was established in November, 1991 in order to preserve our precious Nepalese Cultural heritage and social tradition. It will be beneficial to not only Newa community but to the entire groups of culture lovers who are residing in the United States and Canada.

Our culture is very old, perhaps more than a thousand years, which we would like to carry on for our future generations. It is very important to have such organizations like Pasa Pucha (you could name it Nepal Cultural Heritage also) where you and me, our family and friends could meet frequently and exchange our ideas so that we could learn more about the social and cultural background of our country.

There are many occasions, celebrations and festivals. Some of them are still unclear to us and are very hard to explain to our children due to lack of written documents. Do you know why Macha Janko and Budha Janko (young and old age celebrations) are celebrated? I understand from my parents that Macha Janko is celebrated to welcome new life. The child is blessed by the priest, parents and relatives for his or her successful career. Budha or Budhi Janko is celebrated if the person is lucky enough to survive up to 77 yrs, 7 months, 7 days, 7 hours, 7 minutes, and 7 seconds which is precisely calculated by the Jotish or astrologer. Why number 7 is chosen? Lord Budha walked 7 steps as soon as he came out to this world (from the womb of her mother, Maya Devi). Also Budha Janko signifies that the person has completed his mission in this world and has to look forward for his next incarnation. If we do well in taking care of the poor and the needy people and believe in God we get chance to be born again as human beings.

One could say "Nepal is a land of festivals" with varieties of authentic and typical dishes and different music for different occasions. Every month there is a festival. In Baisakh (April & May) there is a week long Bisket Jatra in Bhaktapur with pulling of two huge decorated chariots of the Goddess, Bhadrakali and the God, Bhairab as the centerpiece of the festival.

Then comes the Kumari Jatra in Banepa and the Machendra in Patan. These festivals are celebrated in Kathmandu valley: Gathamuga (Ghantakarna), Gunhipuni (Gai Jatra), Yanyapuni (Indra Jatra), Man ya khwa Swoye (Mother's Day), Bau ya khwa Swoye (Father's Day), New Year's Day and Kijapuja (Brother's worship), Yomhari Punhi, Si Punhi, Fagu and Sitinakha are celebrated from the months of Mansir to Chaitra (November to March). The typical dishes are wo and Chatamahri (made of black beans and rice powder), kwati (varieties of beans soup), Chhuyala and Kachila (bar-b-que meat and minced spicy meat), Momcha (dumplings) and Yahmahri (steam rice cake). There are also other hundreds of dishes prepared all over Nepal according to different tribes and regions.

We still have some century old classical dances in Kathmandu valley. Among them are Bhairab and Kumari dance, Navdurga of Bhaktapur and Lakhe dance. These dances use musical instruments such as Dhema Baja, Jhyaly and Nagara.

I think Newa culture is Nepal's culture. So why not change the name to Nepal Cultural Heritage so that other different ethnic groups will share with this organization without any hesitation.

Nepa - There is no other place like it on Earth

कछला थुन प्रतिपदा (गवने कउला न लावने यः) शुक्लवा दिन कीगु हपूजा नखः । थुन नखःया सिसिं नेपाः सम्बन्धया नूदें । अन्तरराष्ट्रिय सम्बन्ध हिलीगु दिगु धें हे नेपाःतीत सकसःया थःगु राष्ट्रिय सम्बन्धया गौरवपूर्ण दिन जुगुलि हपूजा की नेपाःमितयगु छुः ताःथुन चने जुदाचवंगु दु । नेपाः सम्बन्ध इम्बी सन् ८७६ अक्टोबर २० तारिख बिहिवारनिसें पलिस्टा जुयाः न्हाःला वडचवंगु छः । थुन सम्बन्धित ठकुरी वंशया जुडु राधकदेवया राज्यकालया शुभ जुगु नं इतिहास वड । नेपाः सम्बन्ध व जुजुया पालय शास्त्रधर साय्बाः नांछा छहा मनुखं न्हाःकूगु जुयाचवन । शास्त्रधरकुं चीमिपि सकल जनतायागु त्यासा पुलाबियाः दोषणं मुक्त यानाव्यूगु दि व सम्बन्धया पुनीत उदा जुगुलि थुन सम्बन्धयात जन-मुक्ति सम्बन्ध धाःसां छुं पाइमखु ।

अले हानं आः हपूजाया खें न्हायनेवलय नेपाः सम्बन्धया न्हाःनिसें कीस हपूजा याना वडचवनागु खें सिइके दइ । नेपाः वर्षक्रियाया सास्त्रकथं नेवाःतसें चन्द्रमाया हिमाव (Lunar Calender) कउलागाः अथवा कछला-थुन शुक्लपक्ष प्रतिपदाखुन हपूजा यायेगु चलन यानातःगु छः ।

हपूजा धकाः मन्दः दनाः पञ्चतत्त्वया प्रमाणकथं थःगु जीवन सुखमय जुइमा धकाः (Many happy returns of the days) पुण्यानाः मंगलया चि सगं कयाः आत्म गुडि यायेगु; चयं-बबय्या आस्था तयाः (Believing the Cosmos) चेतनायुक्त जीवन हुनेत थुन पूजाया आन्तरिक महत्त्व दुगुलि हपूजा साप हे ग्यमुयंगु पर्व छः धकाः नं नेपाःमित हपूजा यायेत कुतः याइपि (devoted) जुयाचवन ।

हपूजा आत्म गुडि (देह गुडि) या परम्परा जक मखु । मनुमात्रया चेतना सिद्धांत नं छः । थुन खें न्हायनेवलय कीगु जीवनया दार्शनिक पक्ष (अवधारकथं) या ग्यमुयंगु विचार प्रवाह न्हाःलुयावड । जीवन पशुत्व स्वयां चवय, आहार, निद्रा, भय, मेथुनया स्वभावयात नं बांलाकाः हुनेमाः धइगु नेपाः संस्कृतिया लिबंसाय न्हाःवले नं सचेष्ट जुदाचवनीपि नेवाःतयत हपूजां साप हे प्रेरणा द्यु ।

हपूजा जीवनया परिभाषा छः । थःहस्यां थःत नि आदर याये सयेकेमाः । हठयोग वा शारीरिक कष्टया प्रतिज्ञा व्यावहारिक मखु । कष्टया हे जीवन छः । बौद्धधर्मया परिवेशं दुःख निरोध सत्यया खें कनी अले वहे चतु आर्यसत्यया प्रवाहय मनुखं पम्हं थः हस्यकी । Charity begins at home. थःगु हे शारीरिक व मानसिक स्तरयात उपेक्षा यानाः सुनानं छुं लवः दइगु ज्या याये फइमखु ।

प्रज्ञा Knowledge in Superiority माः । प्रज्ञां चेतना वड । चेतना ज्याः ह्यलयुदादि सलकि व मनु धाखें हे मनु जुड । पशुत्व भाव वडके तनी । उकि हपूजा याइ ।

हपूजाया तस्सकं न्हाइपुगु पक्ष कीगु सामाजिक परिवार छः । की खेंय कुवां बांलाकाः मतया जलय् गर्वयुक्त कयाः सकसयां सकसिनं भितुनाः नये त्वने यायेगु यूरोपिय सम्प्रदाया छुं नं ज्याखेंलिसे ह्यो मजू । मातृसत्त्व, पितृसत्त्वया सम्बन्धकथं ज्याया विधिबिधान दु ।

अले हपूजाया गौरवान्वित पक्ष जिमिगु (नेपालभाषां कीगुहे खेंगः छपली) हपूजा थगुसी न्हाइपुल धायेगु स्वसा ववसा ग्यस्वा ववसाया हे पिहां जुड ।

पर्यटकतयत नं थुन छगु न्हाइपुगु अध्ययनया ऊवः जुड । नेपाः संवत् न्हाःयाःगुया छुमां विड ।

नेपाः संवत्तया खें हानं छवः उल्लेख याये । नेपाः राष्ट्रया स्वदः दया अलिखित इतिहासयात किम्यासःदं न्हाःया खें प्रमाणित याये मफया वने-थुं कूसा नेपाःलया वच्छि सम्प्रदाया इतिहास नेपाः संवत् हे जक खंकाविड । लिच्छवीतयगु वंशावली पूर्वकथ नं थुन संवत् ग्वाहालि विड । अले वयां लिपा ला उखुन तवकं सरकारीस्तरं न्हाःवनाचवंगु छः । आः नीदें स्वीडनिसं नेपाः सम्बन्धयात हे त्यानाः करवयागु चिप धलय् बाण्डवयातःगु अवैज्ञानिक

(अप्रामाणिककथं नेपाःयागु धकाः) विषम सम्बन्ध थुन सरकार नाला कयाचवन । व सम्बन्ध अनुसार २० नो सन्तःदो पञ्चगुनावंगु ४५ दै दःसा स्ववासि मिसा कलाः धकाः नाले थं यानाः नं थुन सरकारया हँध नीति २० सा मताधरी पुन मफूनि हैं ।

उकि थोक्कन् सकल जनतां नेपाः संवत् ययेकूसां सरकारीस्तरं थुन हन्थानाः थःगु कमजोरी थुन हे वेदेकुलाः वचनाचवंगु दु ।

हामि नं मछाः, याने नं मछाःपिनि थुन हे छः । यूरोपया आत्म-महान्ताया देगं देगम् नूदें ववलि की नेवाःतसें थें हे तय् traffic तवकं दिने बियाः प्याखं हुनी । मे हानाजुड । अन्ताःया सिति चायेको । मयजुपि बावां-साःगु वतः पुनाः बाःह्य वड ।

हृदयनिसें भितुना कालविल याइ । कःकःधायक मत थ्याकी । सकलें सयताइ । पाहां ववनी । सम्बन्ध हिलीगु छहु न्हाःया चा व सम्बन्ध वःगु दि धकाः चिछि नून ह्यलं चायेकाः जापत थ्यायेकाचवनी । सकसितं विदा दइ ।

थन करवयागु सभ्यता नं काये मयः थःगु नं काये मछाः जुगुलि चवय धया थें उल्लेखमय वातावरणय विषम सम्बन्धया हपूजाः जुडमखु । खजाः म्हुतु हुइके थें छगु, निगु शुभकामना कालविल याइ ।

उकि थःगु उपादेयताः स्वये मतःपि, चित्त मन्त्रयपि मनूतयकः थःयाःगु सम्प्रज्ञा दुहां वथेजा याहे पाकुइ अस्सां हपूजाया महत्ता याःपि की नेवाःतयगु सांस्कृतिक जःयात याकसं स्याये फइमखु ।

हपूजा जीवन्त यानाचवनापि नेवाःतयत आत्मगतानी नं छुं दइमखु । धर्म, प्रकृति व समाजयात बांलाक थूनिनिगु संस्कार हे थुन संसारया गौरव छः । उकि कीगु सांस्कृतिक विद्या भं, भं बांलाक हुनेत कीस कुतः यानां तुं वनेमाः । हपूजा धार्मिक, पक्षयस्वयां नं सामाजिक पक्षय ववातुकेमाः । स्पूपितं लिपा -अये हे धाइ ।

If you need any information related to Newa culture, please contact NPPA. We will try to help you obtain the information or refer you to the recognized experts in the subject.

सकल नेपामीपिन्त
भितुना



*Season's Greetings
and
Best Wishes for the New Year*

Nepa Sambat 1113

To all the members and friends

Dibya, Jaya, Dipa, Michael,
Pawan & Pasa Hada

JAMAICA, NEW YORK

Exhibits . . . continued from page 2

30. **Sing-khwa kalli:** A flat and wide ornament with lion-head tips, worn around the ankle. (For brides and girls going to feasts.)
31. **Tuti baggi:** An ankle chain which is worn hooked around a toe. (For brides and girls during their coming-of-age ceremony.)
32. **Jangi sel-ya kalli:** A round ornament with lion-head tips worn around the ankle. (For girls going to a feast.)
33. **Kalli:** Bracelet-like ornament for the ankle.

HAND ORNAMENTS

34. **Sing-khwa chulya:** A bracelet with lion-head ends. (Worn by women going to a feast.)
35. **Kalya:** A wide bracelet worn by brides which is sent to the brides's home before the wedding.
36. **Pancharatna chulya:** Lion-head bracelets made of five metals - gold, silver, iron, copper and brass. (Worn by boys going to a feast.)
37. **Hina angu:** A spring-shaped ring.
38. **Pyakhan angu:** A ring with a cucumber-seed shaped piece on top. (Worn by religious masked

dancers and by girls during the coming-of-age ceremony.)

39. **Angu:** A ring for everyday use.

40. **Piucha:** A thin flat bracelet with a wire wound around it. (Worn by babies who have not undergone their rice-feeding ceremony.)

RITUAL OBJECTS AND OTHERS

41. **Sukunda:** An oil lamp with an image of Lord Ganesh,, used for auspicious ceremonies and other religious functions.

42. **Thapin:** A jar for keeping wine.

43. **Khen bata:** A dish for keeping boiled eggs required for the auspicious ceremony (Sagan).

44. **Gway bata:** A dish for keeping betel nuts used during the wedding ceremony.

45. **Anti:** A jar with a narrow curling spout used for pouring out wine.

46. **Khola:** Bowl used for drinking wine.

47. **Karuwa:** Water jar with a spout.

48. **Lampicha:** A container used to send betel nuts to the bride's family by the bridegroom's family, which marks the bethrothal.



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Dabu is a quarterly newsletter of the Nepa Pasa Pucha of America and is dedicated to communicate and highlight the activities of the NPPA and be a 'dabu' i.e. forum for cultural exchange between the ethnic Newa people and the general population. *Dabu* invites articles and letters to the editor.

Articles should be informative of Newa culture or of general interest and should not be more than 600 words. Letters to the editor should not be longer than 200 words. Articles and letters to the editor may be edited to suit the needs of *Dabu*.

Editorial:**Newa Culture**

Dr. M. N. Dhaubhadel

Dabu means stage. A stage has been set for free dissemination and exchange of information with a primary purpose to preserve and promote the great Newa culture. Dabu is intended to foster cultural exchange between the people of Newa culture and others in the USA and abroad. The wealth of Newa culture is there to enjoy for all.

When we talk about culture in Nepal, Newa culture unmistakably stands out. Newa (or Newar) are the indigenous people of the Kathmandu valley (formally Nepa or Nepal). Newa culture has given Nepal and the world one of the most interesting and sophisticated systems of art, thought, and custom blended in a people.

Newa culture abounds in festival and ritual activities. A myriad of religious monuments in the form of temples and stupas throughout the valley with people celebrating some 100 festivals in a year makes a lasting imprint of Newa culture on a visitor. So when a visitor says that Kathmandu is a valley of temples and a valley of festivals, he is right. The valley is also the home of the magnificent Newa culture. Systems have been in place for centuries to insure that the traditions of the Newa people are not undermined. An example of such a system is the Guthi

which, in a way, can be thought of as a cooperative trust. Guthi is a part of Newa society that allows the Newa people to collectively finance the preservation of monuments and perform traditional ceremonies and feast in the process. Agan is another such system which regularly brings together relatives for important family worshipping and feasting.

The language of Newa people called Newa Bhaye (also Nepal Bhasha and Newari) is perhaps the centerpiece of Newa culture. This language has more or less kept Newa traditions intact and Newa people together. The language has survived the brutal government suppression for two hundred years and has flourished in many aspects. Nepal Bhasha is known to be an effective language with its own scripts. It is in the interest of all people, inside and outside Nepal, to promote Nepal Bhasha and the Nepal Bhasha script that all people of Nepal can claim to be their own.

Newa culture is the heart and the soul of Nepal's culture. It is impossible to touch on all aspects of this lively culture in this small space. Preservation and promotion of Newa culture is essential for the world to keep enjoying its treasure. Dabu and Nepa Pasa Pucha of America invite you all to join us and actively participate in this benevolent cause.



A Newa family celebrating Mha Puja

DABU

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED